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PREPARATORY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, INCLUDING THE REVIEW OF ITS PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Note by the Secretariat

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Introduction

1. The General Conference of UNIDO is the principal organ of the Organization, consisting of representatives of all Members (Articles 7.1 and 8.1 of the Constitution).

2. Unless it decides otherwise, the Conference is to hold a regular session every two years, at the seat of the Organization (Article 8.2). The last regular session (third) of the Conference was held in Vienna from 20 to 24 November 1989.

I. FUNCTIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

3. The main functions of the Conference are stipulated in Article 8.3 of the Constitution. In particular, the Conference should determine the guiding principles and the policies of the Organization.

II. DATE AND PLACE OF THE CONFERENCE

4. At its third session, the Conference decided that its fourth regular session should be held at the seat of the Organization from 18 to 22 November 1991 (GC.3/Dec.31).

5. In this connection, as for the third session, the Austrian Federal Government has placed at the disposal of UNIDO conference facilities at the Austria Center Vienna (ACV) free of charge for meetings that cannot be accommodated by the conference facilities of the Vienna International Centre.

III. BUDGETARY MATTERS

6. The resources available for the holding of the fourth session of the Conference, as provided for in the programme and budgets of UNIDO, 1990-1991 (GC.3/10/Rev.1), total $1,520,300.

7. The budget of the Conference is based on the following assumptions:

(a) The fourth session will last five working days providing for 10 plenary meetings, five main committee meetings and five geographical group meetings;

(b) Interpretation for plenary and main committee meetings and documentation will be provided in six languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish);

(c) Summary records will be provided for plenary meetings only and there will be 10 such meetings. They will be issued in English only at the session and the other five languages will be issued as soon as possible after the session.

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8. The Conference, by approving the programme and budgets, 1990-1991, in its decision GC.3/Dec.23, approved the resource requirements and assumptions mentioned above. However, at the same time, in its decision GC.3/Dec.11 the Conference decided that, in future, a written report as well as summary records should be issued on the work of the Main Committee. Since no provisions have been made for these additional costs, the Secretariat will accommodate the preparation of the summary records without financial implication, to the extent it is possible, during the session, and in any case as soon as possible after the session.

IV. AGENDA

9. In accordance with Article 9.4 (g) of the Constitution, the Board prepares the provisional agenda for each session of the Conference. Furthermore, rule 13 of the rules of procedure of the Conference provides guidelines for the contents of the provisional agenda of a regular session of the Conference. In accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the Board shall prepare that provisional agenda on the basis of a list of items, submitted to it by the Director-General, together with annotations indicating briefly the history of each item, the proposed documentation, the substance of the matter to be discussed and any earlier relevant decisions by the Conference or other organs of the Organization. At its seventh session, the Board considered a list of items proposed by the Director-General and referred the list of items contained in its decision IDB.7/Dec.25 to its eighth session for consideration when adopting the provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Conference. In the annex to the present document, the Director-General is providing annotations to those items, and indicating new items that might be added.

V. DOCUMENTATION

10. In accordance with rule 23 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, documents required for consideration of items on the provisional agenda shall be distributed by the Director-General in all languages of the Conference to all recipients of the provisional agenda, as far as possible at the same time as the provisional agenda (ninety days before the opening date) and in any event not later than forty-five days before the opening date of a regular session. The annex provides, under each of the proposed items, an indication of the pre-session documentation required for the Conference.

VI. ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

11. In view of the short duration of the Conference, the organization of its work is of paramount importance. The Board may therefore wish to consider this question as soon as the provisional agenda has been finalized. In planning the schedule of work, account should be taken of the time required at the plenary for the general debate and for possible voting on some items.

12. It will be recalled that, at its second and third sessions, the Conference established a main committee to which it allocated a number of agenda items. The Board may wish to recommend to the Conference a similar procedure for its fourth session, keeping in mind that the possibility of creating additional committees is constrained by the limited resources available (see para. 7 above).

13. The work of the second and third sessions of the Conference was also greatly facilitated by the setting up, under the guidance of the Bureau of the Board, of a contact group for the preparation of the Conference. That contact group, composed of representatives of permanent missions to UNIDO in Vienna, met during several months before the holding of the Conference and prepared a report with recommendations covering most of the items on the agenda as well as organizational matters.

14. At the level of the Secretariat, in January 1991, the Director-General established a task force for the preparation and organization of the Conference (UNIDO/DG/B.140), in particular to ensure the coordination of pre-session activities such as the preparation of the documentation required.

VII. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

15. The tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, organized jointly by the Economic Commission for Africa, the Organization of African Unity and UNIDO, will be convened at Dakar, Senegal, from 10 to 12 June 1991. The Conference, which will be preceded by the Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Whole on Industrialization in Africa (also at Dakar, from 5 to 8 June), will discuss, inter alia, the African position for the General Conference.

VIII. OTHER MATTERS

16. Office space for delegations and their permanent missions required during the fourth session of the Conference can be rented in the ACV. Delegations wishing to rent such offices are invited to contact, as soon as possible, Ms. Alice Baar, Manager of the Project Division at the ACV (telephone 2369 ext. 2323).

IX. ACTION REQUIRED OF THE BOARD

17. The Board may wish:

(a) To finalize the provisional agenda for the fourth session of the General Conference on the basis of the list of items contained in the annex to the present note. In doing so the Board may wish to consider grouping some of the items to facilitate their discussion;

(b) To decide on the documentation to be prepared for the Conference on the basis of the information provided in the annex to the present note;

(c) To make recommendations to the Conference concerning the allocation of items to a main committee of the Conference;

(d) In the light of the experience gained during the preparations for the second and third sessions of the Conference, to recommend that, under the guidance of the Bureau of the Board, representatives of permanent missions in Vienna organize an informal contact group for the preparation of the fourth session of the Conference.

Annex

ANNOTATIONS TO THE ITEMS LISTED IN DECISION IDB.7/DEC.25 FOR CONSIDERATION WHEN PREPARING THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Item 1. Opening of the fourth session

In accordance with rule 34 of the rules of procedure of the General Conference Mr. Kumbirai M. KANGAI (Zimbabwe), President of the third session, will open the fourth session of the General Conference.

Item 2. Election of officers

At each regular session the Conference shall, with due regard for equitable geographical representation, elect, from among the representatives of Members, the following officers: a President and nine Vice-Presidents, as well as a Chairman for each Main Committee (rule 35).

(a) Election of the President

In accordance with rule 35 and appendix A of the rules of procedure, the President of the fourth session should be elected from the States in List C of Annex I to the Constitution. a/

(b) Election of other officers

The nine Vice-Presidents shall be elected so as to ensure the representative character of the General Committee (rule 35.3). The Vice-Presidents of the Conference at its third session were: Mr. SHEN Jueren (China), Mr. E. VACEK (Czechoslovakia), Mr. M. KAHILUOTO (Finland), Mr. E. CASTILLO ARRIOLA (Guatemala), Mr. L.H.J.B. VAN GORKOM (Netherlands), Mr. C. RAFFO DASSO (Peru), Mr. J. JAMAL (Qatar), Mr. H. AMMAR (Tunisia), Mr. V. YEZHKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).

Item 3. Adoption of the agenda

See paragraph 9 of the present document.

Item 4. Organization of work

The General Committee shall propose to the Conference the establishment of Main Committees and of any other sessional bodies of the Conference. It shall propose to the Conference the allocation of items between the plenary meetings, the Main Committees and any other sessional bodies (rule 42). See also paragraph 17 (c) of the present document.

Item 5. Credentials of representatives in the Conference

As stipulated in Article 8.1 of the Constitution of UNIDO, the Conference shall consist of representatives of all Members of the Organization. Membership in the Organization is defined in Article 1 of the Constitution.

In accordance with rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the credentials of representatives and the names and titles of the other persons constituting the Member's delegation shall be submitted to the Director-General if possible not less than one week before the opening of the session which the delegation will attend. Any later change in the composition of the delegation also shall be submitted to the Director-General. The credentials of representatives shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Member concerned. A Permanent Representative to the Organization does not require special credentials if his letter of accreditation to the Organization specifies that he is authorized to represent his Government at sessions of the Conference, it being understood that this does not preclude that Government from accrediting another person as its representative by means of special credentials.

A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference on the proposal of the President. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the United Nations General Assembly at its most recent session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report without delay to the Conference which shall decide any question arising (rule 28).

Item 6. Election to organs

(a) Industrial Development Board

In accordance with Article 9.1 of the Constitution, the Industrial Development Board shall consist of 53 Members of the Organization elected by the Conference, which shall give due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. In electing the members of the Board, the Conference shall observe the following distribution of seats: 33 members of the Board shall be elected from the States listed in Parts A and C, 15 from the States listed in Part B, and 5 from the States listed in Part D of Annex I to the Constitution. a/

In accordance with Article 9.2 of the Constitution, "members of the Board shall hold office from the close of the regular session of the Conference at which they were elected until the close of the regular session of the Conference four years thereafter ... Members of the Board may be re-elected."

At present, the Board is composed of the following States: Algeria,* Argentina,* Austria,** Belgium,* Botswana,* Brazil,* Bulgaria,* Cameroon,* Chile,* China,* Costa Rica,** Cuba,** Denmark,* Egypt,** France,* Finland,** Germany,* Ghana,* Greece,** Guinea,* Hungary,** India,** Indonesia,** Iran, Islamic Republic of,** Iraq,** Italy,* Japan,* Malaysia,* Mexico,** Morocco,** Netherlands,** Nigeria,** Panama,* Peru,** Philippines,* Republic of Korea,* Saudi Arabia,** Senegal,** Spain,** Sudan,** Switzerland,**

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a/ An updated list of States to be included in Annex I to the Constitution, will be available to the Conference. The list, as of the date of preparation of the present document is the same as that included in document IDB.7/36.

* Term of office expires at the close of the fourth regular session of the General Conference in 1991.

** Term of office expires at the close of the fifth regular session of the General Conference in 1993.

Syrian Arab Republic,** Trinidad and Tobago,** Turkey,** Uganda,** Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic,* Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,* United States of America,* United Republic of Tanzania,* Yugoslavia,* Zaire**. b/

(b) Programme and Budget Committee

In accordance with Article 10.1 of the Constitution, the Programme and Budget Committee shall consist of 27 Members of the Organization elected by the Conference, which shall give due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. In electing the members of the Committee, the Conference shall observe the following distribution of seats: 15 members of the Committee shall be elected from the States listed in Parts A and C, 9 from the States listed in Part B, and 3 from the States listed in Part D of Annex I to the Constitution. a/

In accordance with Article 10.2, "members of the Committee shall hold office from the close of the regular session of the Conference at which they were elected until the close of the regular session of the Conference two years thereafter. Members of the Committee may be re-elected."

At present, the Committee is composed of the following States, whose term of office expires at the close of the fourth regular session of the Conference in November 1991: Algeria, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Zambia.

Other stipulations concerning the election of the members of the Industrial Development Board and the Programme and Budget Committee are contained in rule 102 of the rules of procedure of the General Conference.

Item 7. Reports of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its third special session and its sixth, seventh and eighth regular sessions

In accordance with Article 9.4 (c) of the Constitution, the Board shall report to the Conference at each regular session on the activities of the Board.

Since the third session of the General Conference, and by the time the Conference meets for its fourth session, the Board will have held its third special session on 24 November 1989, its sixth session from 28 May to 1 June 1990, its seventh session from 5 to 9 November 1990 and its eighth session from 1 to 5 July 1991. The reports of these sessions of the Board will be submitted in documents GC.4/1, GC.4/2, GC.4/3 and GC.4/4.

Item 8. Annual reports of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization for 1989 and 1990

In accordance with rule 13.1 (b), the provisional agenda for each regular session of the Conference shall include the annual reports of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization. The Conference will thus have before it the annual reports of UNIDO for 1989 and 1990 (IDB.6/10; IDB.8/10 and Corr.1), which were submitted to the Board at its sixth and eighth sessions, together with any recommendations made by the Board on the subject.

Item 9. UNIDO technical cooperation activities

The technical cooperation activities of the Organization were discussed by the Board at its sixth session when the Board adopted decision IDB.6/Dec.9. The subject is also on the agenda of the eighth session of the Board.

The Conference would thus have before it any recommendations on the subject emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 10. Special regional programmes

(a) Special Programme for Industrial Development in the Arab Countries

At its fifth session the Board decided to establish a special programme designed to promote industrial development in the Arab countries, with special emphasis on regional priority subsectors and on the least developed Arab countries, and to strengthen existing programmes of UNIDO in the Arab region (decision IDB.5/Dec.26). At its sixth session, having considered a progress report by the Director-General on the activities carried out for the preparation of the Programme, the Board decided on the priority areas to be covered by the Programme. It also decided that the Programme should be initially financed through the redeployment of resources within the regular budget, and be supported by the Industrial Development Fund, trust funds and other resources. Furthermore, the Director-General was requested to include the Programme in the biennium budget 1992-1993 and to submit a report in that regard to the General Conference at its fourth session.

The Conference will thus have before it a report by the Director-General on the subject.

(b) Special Programme for the Industrial Development of Asia and the Pacific

The General Conference in its resolution GC.3/Res.18 decided to approve the Special Programme for the Industrial Development of Asia and the Pacific and to take a number of measures related to its implementation. As a follow-up to that resolution, the Special Programme was discussed at the sixth and seventh sessions of the Board, when the Director-General presented progress reports on the subject (IDB.6/8 and IDB.7/26, chap. I.B.). The Board requested the Director-General to report to the Conference at its fourth session on the implementation of the Special Programme and recommendations for follow-up action and, in particular, to provide information, through the Board, on specific activities and measures to be undertaken in compliance with Conference resolution GC.3/Res.18 and Board decision IDB.5/Dec.23.

The Conference will thus have before it the progress report of the Director-General (IDB.8/26 - GC.4/13) together with any recommendations on the subject emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

b/ The list originally included the German Democratic Republic before its accession to the Federal Republic of Germany.

(c) Regional Co-operation Programme for the Industrial Recovery of Latin America and the Caribbean

The Board at its fifth session established the Regional Co-operation Programme for the Industrial Recovery of Latin America and the Caribbean, with its respective regional and subregional components, based on the strengthening of existing programmes of UNIDO and on additional priority programmes to be agreed upon between Member States of the region and the Organization (decision IDB.5/Dec.25).

The General Conference in resolution GC.3/Res.17 requested the Director-General inter alia to prepare a document on the Regional Co-operation Programme for the Industrial Recovery of Latin America and the Caribbean and to submit to the Conference at its fourth session, through the Board, a comprehensive report on the Programme. As requested in the same resolution, the Board considered the Regional Programme at its sixth session and adopted decision IDB.6/Dec.4 which addressed a number of requests to the Director-General, inter alia the submission to the Conference, through the Board at its eighth session, of a full and detailed report on the execution of each of the measures requested in decision IDB.6/Dec.4.

The Conference will thus have before it the report of the Director-General (IDB.8/25 - GC.4/12) together with any recommendations on the subject emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 11. Technical assistance to Namibia

Following the adoption of Conference resolution GC.3/Res.12, the Board at its sixth session took note of the information provided by the Director-General on the implementation of that resolution and in decision IDB.6/Dec.12 further requested him (a) to urgently provide necessary assistance to Namibia, particularly in preparing an industrial development strategy following its recent independence; (b) to continue to strengthen UNIDO technical assistance to Namibia; and (c) to submit a progress report on the implementation of the decision to the General Conference at its fourth session.

The Conference will thus have before it a progress report by the Director-General.

Item 12. Technical assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Conference in resolution GC.3/Res.13 addressed a number of requests to UNIDO concerning technical assistance to the Palestinian people and requested the Director-General to report to the Board and to the Conference at its fourth session on the progress made in the implementation of the resolution. A first report on the subject was submitted to the Board at its seventh session (IDB.7/16). The Board, in its decision IDB.7/Dec.17 called for further action aimed at sustaining and increasing UNIDO's assistance to the Palestinian people and requested the Director-General to report to the Conference at its fourth session and to the Board at its eighth session on progress made in the implementation of that decision.

The Conference will thus have before it the progress report of the Director-General (IDB.8/28 - GC.4/14) together with any recommendations emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 13. Technical assistance to the South African national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity

Following the adoption by the General Conference of resolution GC.3/Res.14, the Board in its decision IDB.6/Dec.13 requested the Director-General to continue to increase technical assistance to the South African national liberation movements recognized by OAU, especially in the areas of industrial training, development of small-scale industries, and repair and maintenance of equipment, and to submit a progress report on the implementation of the decision to the Conference at its fourth session.

The Conference will thus have before it a progress report by the Director-General on the subject.

Item 14. Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

As requested by the General Conference in its resolution GC.3/Res.10, the General Assembly of the United Nations in its resolution 44/237 proclaimed the period 1991-2000 the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA). In its resolution GC.3/Res.10, the Conference addressed a number of requests to the Director-General related to the formulation and implementation of programmes for the Second IDDA and also requested the Director-General to report on the implementation of that resolution through the Board to the Conference at its fourth session. A first progress report on the preparations for a programme for the Second IDDA was submitted by the Director-General to the Board at its seventh session (IDB.7/25). On that occasion, the Board in its decision IDB.7/Dec.16 requested further actions from the Director-General including a report on the implementation of the decision to the Board at its eighth session.

The Conference will thus have before it the progress report of the Director-General (IDB.8/23 - GC.4/10) together with any recommendations emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 15. Industrialization of the least developed countries

The General Conference in resolution GC.3/Res.11 requested the Director-General inter alia to take the necessary measures to ensure the active participation of UNIDO in the relevant activities of the preparatory work for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to be held in Paris in September 1990, including the development of a special strategy for the industrialization of the least developed countries in the 1990s.

Subsequently, the Board reviewed the matter at its sixth and seventh sessions. In its decision IDB.6/Dec.6 it addressed a number of requests to the Director-General including the submission of a report to the Conference at its fourth session. In its decision IDB.7/Dec.15 the Board expressed satisfaction at the UNIDO contribution to the preparation of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed

Countries and to the Conference itself. It requested the Director-General to take account of the results of the Conference in all of UNIDO's activities and, to that end, encouraged him to initiate, as soon as possible, the projects aimed at the implementation of the Plan of Action for the industrial development of the least developed countries. The Board further requested the Director-General to review and analyse, in consultation with the Governments of the least developed countries, as well as relevant international organizations, including the United Nations Development Programme, key industrial development issues for the industrialization of the least developed countries and prepare recommendations for national and international action as well as a work programme in the areas of UNIDO's competence, for the least developed countries for the decade of the 1990s.

The Conference will thus have before it a progress report by the Director-General on the subject including action taken on the development of a special strategy for the industrialization of the least developed countries in the 1990s.

Item 16. Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The General Conference in resolution GC.3/Res.9 made a number of requests and recommendations aimed at strengthening economic and technical cooperation among developing countries (ECDC/TCDC) and requested the Director-General to submit to its fourth session, through the Board, a report on the activities undertaken by UNIDO in compliance with that resolution. Subsequently, the Board at its sixth session considered information provided by the Director-General in that respect, and in decision IDB.6/Dec.11 requested the Director-General to present, through the Board, to the Conference at its fourth session the regulatory framework for the ECDC/TCDC components of UNIDO programmes that the Conference, in its resolution GC.3/Res.9, had requested the Director-General to establish.

The Conference will thus have before it the progress report by the Director-General on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries (IDB.8/29 - GC.4/15), and a regulatory framework for the ECDC/TCDC components of UNIDO programmes, presented by the Director-General (IDB.8/13 - GC.4/7). The Conference will also have before it any recommendations emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 17. Integration of women in industrial development

In resolution GC.3/Res.15 the General Conference inter alia requested the Director-General to include in the annual report information on progress made with the implementation of the plan of action for future UNIDO activities for the integration of women in industrial development (GC.3/19, chap. IV) with a view to ensuring the attainment of the objectives in the medium-term plan (GC.3/17, paras. 61-63), namely that women are fully integrated in all programmes and projects. The Conference also decided to consider the question of integration of women in development at its fourth session.

Subsequently, the Board in its decision IDB.6/Dec.8 addressed a number of requests to the Director-General including the presentation of a report on the progress achieved in the implementation of the UNIDO programme for the integration of women in industrial development to the General Conference at its fourth session.

The Conference will thus have before it a progress report by the Director-General.

Item 18. Development and transfer of technology

The General Conference in resolution GC.3/Res.7 requested the Director-General to continue to implement and enhance the programme for the development and transfer of technology contained in document IDB.3/26 as approved by the Conference in its resolution GC.2/Res.4. Furthermore, UNIDO should initiate, in consultation with the regional commissions and other relevant United Nations organizations and agencies, measures with a view to establishing regional associations of small-scale industrial enterprises and regional data banks and thus providing a forum for the exchange of information on various aspects of the development of entrepreneurial capabilities. The Director-General was also requested to present to the Conference at its fourth session through the Board a progress report on these issues. A first progress report on the subject was submitted to the Board at its seventh session (IDB.7/17 and Add.1).

The Conference will have before it the latest progress report of the Director-General (IDB.8/24 - GC.4/11) together with any recommendations on the subject emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 19. Development of human resources

The General Conference in its resolution GC.3/Res.8 requested the Director-General to take a number of actions aimed at intensifying the human resource development activities of UNIDO, and to report on their implementation to the Conference at its fourth session. A first progress report on the subject was submitted to the Board at its seventh session (IDB.7/21).

The Conference will have before it the latest progress report of the Director-General (IDB.8/17 - GC.4/9) together with any recommendations on the subject emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 20. Evaluation activities of UNIDO

The evaluation activities of UNIDO were discussed by the Board at its fifth and sixth sessions, when the Board adopted decisions IDB.5/Dec.12 and IDB.6/Dec.14. In the latter decision, the Board requested the Director-General to continue to develop UNIDO methodology and practices in its evaluation activities and to report on that issue to the General Conference at its fourth session.

The Conference will thus have before it a report on the UNIDO methodology and practices in its evaluation activities.

Item 21. UNIDO environment programme

Further to the adoption of General Conference resolution GC.3/Res.16 on UNIDO contributions to environment and industrial development, the Board at its sixth session adopted decision IDB.6/Dec.7

in which it approved the proposed UNIDO environment programme and its activities as outlined in paragraphs 3 to 28 of document IDB.6/3 and addressed a number of requests to the Director-General in relation to that programme. The Director-General was also requested to report on the implementation of the decision to the General Conference at its fourth session including the UNIDO contribution to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

The Conference will thus have before it a progress report by the Director-General.

Item 22. New concepts and approaches for cooperation in respect to industrial development in conformity with Article 2 (c) of the Constitution

Article 2 (c) of the Constitution stipulates that, in fulfilment of its objectives, the Organization shall create new and develop existing concepts and approaches in respect of industrial development on global, regional and national, as well as on sectoral levels, and carry out studies and surveys with a view to formulating new lines of action directed towards harmonious and balanced industrial development, with due consideration for the methods employed by countries with different socio-economic systems for solving industrialization problems. The subject of developing new concepts and approaches for cooperation in industrial development constituted a main issue in the deliberations of the General Conference at its second and third sessions (see decision GC.2/Dec.13 and resolution GC.3/Res.3).

While emphasizing the objectives that any new concepts and approaches should pay particular attention to, resolution GC.3/Res.3 requested the Director-General: (a) to continue to include in the medium-term plan 1992-1997 the activities mentioned in the report of the Director-General on the subject (GC.3/27) and mentioned in the resolution; (b) to submit proposals on the new concepts and approaches for consideration and approval of UNIDO governing bodies, taking into consideration the opinions and views of Member States; and (c) in the context of the medium-term plan 1992-1997 to present to the Conference at its fourth session a progress report on the issues raised in the resolution.

The Conference will thus have before it the progress report by the Director-General (IDB.8/39 - GC.4/17) together with any recommendations on the subject emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 23. Evaluation of the objectives and functions of UNIDO in view of recent changes and developments in the world

In its decision IDB.6/Dec.23, the Board raised a number of concerns related to the subject of this item. The Board also requested the Director-General to submit a report on the implementation of that decision, through the Board at its eighth session, to the General Conference at its fourth session.

The Conference will thus have before it the report by the Director-General (IDB.8/40 - GC.4/18) together with any recommendations emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 24. Mobilization of financial resources for industrial development

The General Conference, in resolution GC.2/Res.10, operative paragraph 1, requested the Director-General to exert efforts in a number of areas aimed at identifying and promoting ways and means of mobilizing additional financial resources for industrial development. Subsequently, at its third session, the Conference in resolution GC.3/Res.5, addressed a number of requests to the Director-General aimed at pursuing and reinforcing his activities concerning the mandate of resolution GC.2/Res.10.

In that context, the Director-General was requested to report to the Conference, through the Board, on all the joint promotion activities which UNIDO is carrying out with international financial institutions to deepen the analysis of the means to improve promotion activities of UNIDO, in the matter referred to in paragraph 37 of the Director-General's report (GC.3/3/Rev.1) as well as to report on the implementation of the resolution, through the Board, to the Conference at its fourth session. Also in the context of the external debt and industrial development the Director-General was requested to update the progress report on mobilization of financial resources submitted to the Conference at its third session (GC.3/3/Rev.1).

The Director-General submitted a first progress report on all these issues to the Board at its seventh session (IDB.7/22). The Board, on that occasion, adopted decision IDB.7/Dec.18 in which it called for further action on the matter. It also requested the Director-General to report to the General Conference at its fourth session on the implementation of each of the measures called for in the Board decision.

The Conference will thus have before it a progress report by the Director-General.

Item 25. The external debt and industrial development

At its third session, the General Conference considered a progress report by the Director-General on the external debt and industrial development (GC.3/4 and Add.1) and a study submitted by the Director-General on the effects of the external debt and the external debt servicing on the industrial development of the developing countries (GC.3/23). The Conference adopted resolution GC.3/Res.6 in which it requested the Director-General, inter alia, (a) to submit to the Board, on the basis of chapter III of the study (GC.3/23), proposals for the adoption of specific measures and mechanisms, within UNIDO's mandate, where UNIDO can contribute to the reinforcement of the industrial capabilities of developing countries; (b) to broaden the scope of the study contained in document GC.3/23 to include all developing countries and to deepen and update the contents of documents GC.3/3/Rev.1, GC.3/4 and Add.1 and Corr.1, in order to ensure the necessary coherence between industrial development programmes and the evolution of the debt problem; and (c) to submit the reports on the implementation of the measures called for in the resolution to both the Board at its seventh session and the Conference at its fourth session.

Such reports were submitted by the Director-General to the Board in documents IDB.7/19, IDB.7/20 and IDB.7/23. On that occasion, the Board adopted decision IDB.7/Dec.20 in which it addressed further requests to the Director-General on the matter, including the updating of the contents of documents IDB.7/19, IDB.7/20 and IDB.7/23, making them more comprehensive, and a detailed report on the implementation of each of the measures called for in decision IDB.7/Dec.20 to the General Conference at its fourth session.

The Conference will thus have before it a comprehensive report by the Director-General on the external debt and industrial development, including an updating of documents IDB.7/19, IDB.7/20 and IDB.7/23.

Item 26. Financial matters

The reports of the Board mentioned under item 7 above will contain recommendations to the Conference concerning sub-items (a) to (f) below.

(a) Scale of assessments of Member States

In accordance with rule 13.1 (k), the provisional agenda for each regular session of the Conference shall include recommendations of the Board for the establishment of the scale of assessments. Article 15 of the Constitution stipulates that regular budget expenditures shall be borne by the Members, as apportioned in accordance with a scale of assessments established by the Conference by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting, upon the recommendation of the Board, that the scale of assessments shall be based to the extent possible on the scale most recently employed by the United Nations and that no Member shall be assessed more than 25 per cent of the regular budget of the Organization.

The Conference will have before it the recommendations of the Board based on Programme and Budget Committee (PBC) conclusion 1991/7 (g) concerning the scale of assessments for 1992-1993 and PBC conclusion 1991/9 (b) concerning the application of the split-currency system of assessments for the regular budget for that biennium.

(b) Financial situation of UNIDO

The Conference will have a report by the Director-General showing the financial situation of UNIDO as of 30 September 1991 (to be updated immediately before the opening of the session). The report will contain a cash flow analysis for 1991 including the status of assessed contributions to the regular budget and the status of advances to the Working Capital Fund.

(c) Application of the split-currency system

The General Conference, at its third session, decided to continue the application of the split-currency system of assessments for the regular budget in accordance with financial regulation 5.1 (d) (GC.3/Dec.19), while the advances to the Working Capital Fund should continue to be assessed and paid in United States dollars, as stated in financial regulation 5.5 (d) (GC.3/Dec.20). The administration of the split-currency system of assessment was reviewed by the External Auditor in his report on the accounts for the financial period 1988-1989 (PBC.6/15 and Corr.1 - IDB.7/11 and Corr.1). Having considered that report, as well as a report of the Director-General on the subject (IDB.7/30), the Board requested him to study further in consultation with Member States alternatives to the present split-currency system, and to report on the subject to the Programme and Budget Committee at its seventh session.

In conclusion 1991/9 the Committee submitted its recommendations to the Board concerning the split-currency system for the biennium 1992-1993 and the ensuing recommendations of the Board would be submitted to the Conference for consideration under (a) above. Further action on the subject relates to expenditures reporting and monitoring and will be taken up by the Committee at its eighth session in 1992. There may be thus no need to include the subject as a separate sub-item in the provisional agenda of the Conference.

(d) Working Capital Fund

In accordance with financial regulation 5.4, upon recommendation of the PBC and subsequently the Board, the conference shall determine the amount and purposes of the Working Capital Fund. Financial regulation 5.5 (d) stipulates that advances to the Working Capital Fund shall be assessed and paid in United States dollars.

At its third session, the General Conference in decision GC.3/Dec.20 decided that for the 1990-1991 biennium the level of the Working Capital Fund should be $9 million and the authorized purposes of the fund should remain the same as for the 1988-1989 biennium (see decision GC.2/Dec.27).

The Conference will have before it the status of advances to the Working Capital Fund as of 30 September 1991 (to be updated immediately before the session) as well as the recommendations emanating from the Board at its eighth session based on PBC conclusion 1991/8 concerning the level and purposes of the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1992-1993.

(e) Financial regulations

The Conference at its second session approved the financial regulations annexed to its decision GC.2/Dec.25 with the exception of regulations 5.2 (e) and 5.3 on which no consensus had been reached. Subsequently, by decision GC.3/Dec.21, the Conference at its third session adopted amendments to financial regulations 4.2 (b) and 4.2 (c). Following recommendations made by the independent team of experts on the programme and budgets of UNIDO (PBC.5/16 and Corr.2), the Board is submitting to the General Conference at its fourth session for consideration and adoption the additions (c), (d) and (e) to financial regulation 4.1 contained in decision IDB.7/Dec.13. In respect of regulations 5.2 (e) and 5.3, on which consensus has still to be reached, the Conference requested the Director-General for the time being to continue to apply, in accordance with Article 26.2 of the Constitution, the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, namely the chapeau and subparagraph (e) of regulation 5.2. These regulations are related to the Tax Equalization Fund and are thus linked with staff regulations 6.8 (c) and (d) which are still under review by the Board.

At the request of the PBC in its conclusion 1991/6, paragraph (f)(ii), the Director-General will present to the eighth session of the Board proposals for these regulations.

The Conference will thus have before it the recommendations of the Board concerning additions to financial regulation 4.1 (IDB.7/Dec.13) and any recommendations that may emanate from the eighth session of the Board concerning the text of financial regulations 5.2 (e) and 5.3.

(f) Appointment of external auditor

In accordance with financial regulation 11.1, an External Auditor, who shall be Auditor-General (or an officer exercising an equivalent function) of a Member State, shall be appointed in the manner and for the period decided by the Conference. By decision GC.1/Dec.34, the Conference appointed the Senior President of the Audit Office of Belgium as the External Auditor for UNIDO for a period of two years beginning on 1 July 1986, and subsequently by decisions GC.2/Dec.28 and GC.3/Dec.22, it extended that appointment until 30 June 1992.

The Conference will thus have before it the recommendations of the Board on the question of the appointment of an external auditor for the period 1 July 1992 to 30 June 1994 based on PBC conclusion 1991/11.

Item 27. Practice of zero real growth budgets

The General Conference in decision GC.3/Dec.24 requested the Board to re-examine the practice of zero real growth budgets and to submit a report on that subject to the General Conference at its fourth session. A report on the subject (IDB.7/28) was submitted by the Director-General to the Board at its seventh session. The Board will take up the subject at its eighth session.

The Conference will thus have before it a report on the subject formulated by the Board at its eighth session.

Item 28. Medium-term plan, 1992-1997

In accordance with General Conference decision GC.2/Dec.23, the Director-General submitted to the Board in the first year of the fiscal period 1990-1991, through the Programme and Budget Committee, a draft medium-term plan for the six years 1992-1997. At the request of the Board the PBC at its seventh session considered a revised version of that document (PBC.7/17) and adopted conclusion 1991/5 in which it inter alia recommended that the Director-General submit that document to the Board together with the views expressed by members of the PBC and that the Board, after due consideration, submit it to the Conference for approval.

The Conference will thus have before it a draft medium-term plan submitted by the Board.

Item 29. Programme and budgets, 1992-1993

In accordance with Article 14.4 of the Constitution, the Conference shall consider and approve the programme of work and the corresponding regular budget and operational budget submitted to it by the Board, by a two-thirds majority of the Members present and voting.

The Conference will thus have before it the recommendations of the Board related to the programme and budgets, 1992-1993.

These may include a proposal concerning 15 per cent reserve of total appropriations, based on PBC conclusion 1991/4 as well as recommendations concerning the scale of assessments and split-currency system, based on PBC conclusions 1991/7 and 1991/8 (see (a) and (c) above).

Item 30. Industrial Development Fund

Information on the activities of the Fund is included in the annual reports of UNIDO for 1989 and 1990 (IDB.6/10; IDB.8/10). Decisions of the Board concerning the programmes for 1990 and 1991 and the proposed programming thrust for 1991, 1992 and 1993 will be contained in the reports of the Board.

Following the precedent established in previous Conferences, in order to save time and money, the pledges to the Fund in 1991 will be made in writing, and the results announced at the end of the fourth session of the General Conference.

Item 31. Guidelines for special trust fund projects

In its decision IDB.6/Dec.10 on programmes and activities financed by special trust funds, the Board requested the Director-General inter alia to submit for approval, through the Board at its eighth session, to the General Conference at its fourth session updated and consolidated guidelines on the modalities for the appraisal, management and operation of special trust fund projects, giving due attention to the objectives and priorities identified in the Constitution of UNIDO and the medium-term plan, 1990-1995 (GC.3/17), and the application of the financial regulations, as also requested in IDB.6/Dec.23 paragraph (i) on evaluation of the objectives and functions of UNIDO in view of recent changes and developments in the world.

The Conference will thus have before it the updated and consolidated guidelines on the modalities for the appraisal, management and operation of special trust fund projects (IDB.8/38 - GC.4/16) together with any recommendations emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 32. Organizational and staff structure

In resolution GC.3/Res.20, the General Conference, while taking note of the management review of the organizational and staff structure of UNIDO (IDB.5/9) as well as the findings and recommendations of the Director-General on the management review (IDB.5/9/Add.1 and Corr.1) and the report of the Director-General on the organizational and staff structure of UNIDO (GC.3/33), invited the Director-General to pursue his in-depth study on the appropriate organizational structure of UNIDO in accordance with the criteria set out in paragraph (h) of Conference decision GC.2/Dec.22. At the same time, it requested the Director-General to present to the Conference at its fourth session, through the Board, a report on his overall vision of the appropriate organizational and staff structure of UNIDO, including clear terms of reference and

functions for the different departments and divisions, taking into account the medium-term plan. It also requested the Director-General to continue to consult, as appropriate, with Member States and, at the request of the President of the Board, to initiate further informal exchanges of views and studies of options for the long-term reform process and optimum staff structure, especially after presentation of the report to be submitted to the Board and the Conference.

A report on his overall vision of the appropriate structure (IDB.7/33) was submitted by the Director-General to the Board at its seventh session. The Board is expected to review the matter again at its eighth session.

The Conference will thus have before it a report by the Director-General on his overall vision of the appropriate organizational and staff structure of UNIDO and any recommendations on the subject emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 33. Personnel matters

(a) United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

The Conference will have before it a recommendation of the Board concerning candidates for election to the Staff Pension Committee for the years 1992 and 1993.

(b) Women in the Secretariat c/

In its decision IDB.7/Dec.22, the Board urged the Director-General to continue his efforts, in order to achieve to the extent possible an overall representation in the Professional category of 25 per cent women by 1993 and 30 per cent by 1995, taking into account Article 11.5 of the Constitution of UNIDO and to report on the progress made in this respect to the Board and the Conference at their next sessions.

The Conference will thus have before it the progress report by the Director-General (IDB.8/15 - GC.4/8) and any recommendations on the subject emanating from the Board at its eighth session.

Item 34. Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations

In accordance with rule 13, the provisional agenda for each regular session of the Conference shall include reports from specialized and related agencies and from other intergovernmental organizations with which UNIDO has concluded a relationship agreement pursuant to Article 19.1 (a) of the Constitution, and items proposed by them, where the agreement establishing the relationship with the organization concerned so provides.

Furthermore, in the guidelines for the relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations adopted by the General Conference at its first session (decision GC.1/Dec.41, annex), it is stipulated that the Director-General shall report to the Conference at each regular session on any agreements with intergovernmental and governmental organizations entered into by him on behalf of the Organization since the preceding regular session as well as on any consultative relations established with non-governmental organizations in the same period.

The Conference will thus have before it the decisions adopted by the Board on the subject at its sixth and eighth sessions and a note by the Director-General on developments that have taken place since the third session of the Conference.

Item 35. Headquarters agreement between UNIDO and the Republic of Austria

In accordance with Article 20.2 of the Constitution, "the Organization shall conclude a headquarters agreement with the Host Government". The Conference will be informed of the latest developments in this respect.

Item 36. Date and place of the fifth session

Article 8.2 (a) of the Constitution stipulates that the Conference shall hold a regular session every two years, unless it decides otherwise. In the proposals of the Director-General for the programme and budgets for 1992-1993, provisions have been made for the holding of the fifth session of the General Conference for a duration of five working days.

Item 37. Closure of the fourth session

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Possible additional items:

- UNIDO energy programme

The Programme and Budget Committee in its conclusion 1991/5, as well as the Board in its decision IDB.7/Dec.14, have requested the Director-General to present the energy programme mentioned in the revised draft medium-term plan (PBC.7/17) to the policy-making organs for approval. After review by the Board at its eighth session, the UNIDO energy programme may therefore be submitted to the Conference for approval.

- The coordinating role of UNIDO in the United Nations system on industrial development

In the light of recent developments at the level of the United Nations General Assembly (see items 19 and 20 of the provisional agenda of the current session of the Board), the Board may wish to recommend the inclusion of an item on the coordinating role of UNIDO in the provisional agenda of the General Conference.

- National Committees for UNIDO

The establishment and reactivation of National Committees of UNIDO would assist the Organization in strengthening its coordinating role in the United Nations system on industrial development. The Board may wish to recall its decision IDB.5/Dec.8 and bring the matter to the attention of the Conference.

c/ Additional sub-item, included in order to comply with Board decision IDB.7/Dec.22.